

# Harting Primary School Newsletter



## Message from Chair of Governors

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Many of you will have heard that we have been involved in looking to the future funding of small rural Primary Schools. Small is defined as less than 210 places. The new National Funding Formula (NFF) will come into full force in the academic year 2020/21 and will be a financial hit on all small rural Primary Schools. As such it is prudent to look at potential models to alleviate the financial hit while continuing to deliver high quality teaching to the children of Harting School. As such we have been investigating the concept of Federation with other small rural schools with a time frame of 1 to 2 years hence, coinciding with the NFF implementation. One such school was Rogate. However, recent events at Rogate have meant that the time frame would have had to be foreshortened with a very high probability of affecting the quality of teaching at Harting School. The Governors, whose prime objective is the education and wellbeing of the children of Harting, as well as the wellbeing of its staff, concluded that the foreshortened time frame placed too high a risk on the quality of education for Harting children. As such immediate moves for Federation or formal support for Rogate have been shelved. However, the impact of NFF will still affect Harting and future models of operation will continue to be explored. Please be assured that throughout this exploration the Governors' main concern will be the continued wellbeing and excellent education of the children.

Jeff Ace, Chair of Governors on behalf for Harting CofE Primary School Governors

## Message from the Head

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Over the last couple of weeks, you might have noticed bags develop under teachers' eyes as they have been burning the midnight oil to write school reports! We have simplified the format, as promised, following the information that was shared at parents' evenings earlier in the year. We hope, however, that you see that the children are well known to the teaching staff and that they care about how they are doing.

If there are concerns, however, about reports or other aspects of school life, we welcome feedback. I know, as a parent myself, that sometimes things written in ink adopt a tone that was never intended so do seek clarification if you are concerned. In the first instance, talk with your child's class teacher - the end of the day is often a better time to talk, simply because a class of children do not need supervising. You are, of course able to discuss things with me either by grabbing me on the playground or speaking on the telephone to find the best time.

We are now heading rapidly to the end of term. I hope that the children enjoy all the activities that are planned. The hot weather has added to everyone's tiredness so when it cools down, do try to get the children into bed earlier so that they have the stamina for the next week or two.

Thank you for all the on-going support you give to us and the children.

Best wishes, *Fiona*

Key Harting values: love and respect  
'Love others as yourself'  
Worship Theme: Truthfulness

### Cricket at Midhurst Rother College

Again our team, from year 6, made us proud. This time they came third in the cricket tournament but, as usual, showed good sportsmanship.



### Cathedral - Leavers' service



Last Monday, our children were again really great ambassadors for the school at the cathedral leavers' service. In fact, a passerby commented on their exemplary behaviour.

Another reason to feel proud was how well they took part in the service. Fraser and Tom read the lesson well whilst the girls carried the banners and presented the collection.



### Spotlight on safeguarding

Last week the teaching staff worked on our e-safety curriculum to ensure that we are giving out the right messages to children and make them aware of the risks of being on-line. They and you, as parents, need to be awfully 'savvy' these days.

This meeting coincided with the Rother Valley School Council meeting, which also focused on a specific programme: Fortnite, which is being explored by many children. The content of this may alarm you, so consider carefully if you wish your children to use it. At the meeting, where there were mainly eleven year olds, most of the children were playing on it. The majority agreed that Headteachers should consider informing parents that they might be unhappy about this if they knew. Can I suggest that you find out more about the content and how often your child is **really** using this programme?

The county is asking parents to complete a survey about their knowledge of risks to their children so that they can offer better resources in the future. If you are able to complete it, please follow this link: <https://haveyoursay.westsussex.gov.uk/communities-public-protection/parent-online-safety>

Minecraft - click this link to see the risks and precautions to take to help keep your children safe whilst playing this game: <https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety/status/1011992663002963969>

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### Aspire Summer Courses

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This year there will be no Summer School in Harting. Nigel Gardner and his team will, however, be running local full-day courses. The details of these are on the parents' noticeboard in the pupil entrance.

### Strings Concert

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Thank you to the children who shared their strings expertise with us last week. We are grateful to Helen Dromey, who comes each week from West Sussex Music.

### Hobby Horse club

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Yesterday our assembly was outside with a demonstration of hobby horse dressage, which was really impressive. This was the brain child of Hayley Frampton. It has proved such fun for the children and is amazing exercise. Afterwards, it was clear that this club will be in great demand, should Hayley again choose to spend her spare time in this way, as many of the children were expressing an interest in it.



### Parenting course

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We are pleased to inform you that West Sussex are offering parents access to the Solihull Parenting course, which is on-line. It comes highly rated and at least one of our teachers is now working through it to improve her parenting skills. If you are interested in using the programme, the access passwords are available from the school office.

### PTFA request

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The PTFA are keen to have more donations for the raffle that is run each night at the school production. Please drop off anything suitable that you may have at the school office. Your support would be really appreciated.

### Key dates for your diary

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**Note:** Inset days; PTFA events; new dates/ information added to calendar

Summer Term 2018	
Week beginning 2.7.18	
6.7.28	Sharing assembly: Beacon, Downlands, Warren
Week beginning 9.7.18	
9.7.18	Y3 swimming starts (Monday to Thursday this week and next)
12.7.18	Rother trip to Sealife Centre, Southsea School production
13.7.18	TPS transition day School production
Week beginning 16.7.18	
16.7.18	Bikeability starts y6 - mornings (Monday to Thursday)
16.7.18	Year 6 Forest School - afternoon
17.7.18	Y6 Forest School - afternoon
18.7.18	Y6 Sports afternoon (tbc)
19.7.18	Y6 take over afternoon

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19.7.18	Y6 sleepover
20.7.18	Rounders tournament (y6)
20.7.18	Open Mic night in the Roundhouse
Week beginning 23.7.18	
23.7.18	Whole school walk and picnic
24.7.18	Last day of school year + Leavers' service (Parish church) at 11am
25.7.18	Summer holiday starts
Dates for 2018/19	
<b>We respectfully ask that you log the dates of the school calendar in your diaries as legislation does not permit us to authorise leave unless there are exceptional circumstances. You are therefore asked to take family breaks in school holidays only. The school website has the Absence policy, should you need clarification.</b>	
3.9.18	<b>INSET DAY</b>
4.9.18	First day back for children
Week beginning 10.9.18	
11.9.18	Residential y5/6 until 14.9.18
Week beginning 15.10.18	
18.10.18	<b>INSET DAY</b>
19.10.18	<b>INSET DAY</b>
22.10.18	Half-term holiday
Week beginning 29.10.18	
29.10.18	First day back after half-term
Week beginning 17.12.18	
19.12.18	Last day of Autumn term
20.12.18	Christmas holiday
Week beginning 31.12.18	
3.1.19	First day back after Christmas
Week beginning 11.2.19	
15.2.19	<b>INSET DAY</b>
18.2.19	Half-term holiday starts
Week beginning 25.2.19	
25.2.19	First day back after half-term
Week beginning 1.4.19	
5.4.19	Last day of Spring term
8.4.19	Easter holiday
Week beginning 22.4.19	
22.4.19	Easter Monday
23.4.19	First day back after Easter
Week beginning 6.5.19	
6.5.19	Bank holiday
Week beginning 27.5.19	
27.5.19	Half-term holiday starts
Week beginning 3.6.19	
3.6.19	First day back after half-term
Week beginning 17.6.19	
21.6.19	<b>INSET DAY - <u>tlc</u></b>
Week beginning 22.7.19	
23.7.19	Last day of school year
24.7.19	Summer holiday starts